

(b) The responsible official must maintain such records for 3 years.

(c) All records must be produced upon request to APHIS or CDC inspectors, and appropriate Federal, State, or local law enforcement authorities.

§ 121.16 Inspections.

(a) To ensure compliance with the regulations, any APHIS or CDC inspector must be allowed, without previous notification, to enter and inspect the entire premises, all materials and equipment, and all records required to be maintained by this part.

(b) Prior to issuing a certificate of registration to an entity or individual, APHIS or CDC may inspect and evaluate the premises and records to ensure compliance with the regulations and the biosafety, containment, and security requirements.

§ 121.17 Notification in the event of theft, loss, or release of a biological agent or toxin.

(a) The responsible official must orally notify APHIS and appropriate Federal, State, or local law enforcement agencies immediately upon discovery of the theft or loss of agents or toxins listed in § 121.3. The oral notification must be followed by a written report (APHIS Form 2043) within 7 days.

(b) The responsible official must orally notify APHIS immediately upon discovery that a release of an agent or toxin has occurred outside of the biocontainment area. The oral notification shall be followed by a written report (APHIS Form 2043) within 7 days. Upon notification and a finding that the release poses a threat to animal or plant health, or animal or plant products, APHIS will notify relevant Federal, State, and local authorities, and the public, if necessary. If the release involves an overlap agent or toxin, APHIS will also notify the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(c) The responsible official must orally notify APHIS of a theft, loss, or release of an agent or toxin by calling (866) 994-5698. A copy of APHIS Form 2043 may be obtained by writing to National Center for Import and Export, VS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 40, Riverdale, MD 20737-1231; or by calling (301) 734-3277. The form is also available on the Internet at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/ncie.bta.html>. APHIS Form 2043 may be mailed to the same address or faxed to (301) 734-3652.

§ 121.18 Administrative review.

An individual or entity may appeal a denial or revocation of registration under this part. An individual who has been denied access to listed agents or toxins or who has been granted only limited access to listed agents or toxins under this part may appeal

that decision.¹⁶ The appeal must be in writing and submitted to the Administrator within 30 days of the decision. The appeal must state all of the facts and reasons upon which the individual or entity disagrees with the decision. Where the denial or revocation of registration or the denial or limitation of an individual's access approval is based solely upon an identification by the Attorney General, APHIS will forward the request for review to the Attorney General. The Administrator's decision constitutes final agency action.

PART 122—ORGANISMS AND VECTORS

Sec.

122.1 Definitions.

122.2 Permits required.

122.3 Application for permits.

122.4 Suspension or revocation of permits.

AUTHORITY: 21 U.S.C. 111 and 151–158; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

§ 122.1 Definitions.

The following words, when used in the regulations in this part 122, shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

(a) *Department*. The U.S. Department of Agriculture.

(b) *Secretary*. “Secretary” means the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, or any officer or employee of the Department to whom authority has heretofore been delegated, or to whom authority may hereafter be delegated, to act in his stead.

(c) *Administrator*. The Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, or any person authorized to act for the Administrator.

(d) *Organisms*. All cultures or collections of organisms or their derivatives, which may introduce or disseminate any contagious or infectious disease of animals (including poultry).

(e) *Vectors*. All animals (including poultry) such as mice, pigeons, guinea pigs, rats, ferrets, rabbits, chickens, dogs, and the like, which have been treated or inoculated with organisms, or which are diseased or infected with any contagious, infectious, or communicable disease of animals or poultry or

¹⁶An entity may not appeal the denial or limitation of an individual's access to listed agents or toxins.

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which have been exposed to any such disease.

(f) *Permittee*. A person who resides in the United States or operates a business establishment within the United States, to whom a permit to import or transport organisms or vectors has been issued under the regulations.

(g) *Person*. Any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, company, society, association, or other organized group of any of the foregoing, or any agent, officer, or employee of any thereof.

[31 FR 81, Jan. 5, 1966, as amended at 57 FR 30899, July 13, 1992]

§ 122.2 Permits required.

No organisms or vectors shall be imported into the United States or transported from one State or Territory or the District of Columbia to another State or Territory or the District of Columbia without a permit issued by the Secretary and in compliance with the terms thereof: *Provided*, That no permit shall be required under this section for importation of organisms for which an import permit has been issued pursuant to part 102 of this subchapter or for transportation of organisms produced at establishments licensed under part 102 of this subchapter. As a condition of issuance of permits under this section, the permittee shall agree in writing to observe the safeguards prescribed by the Administrator for public protection with respect to the particular importation or transportation.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0015)

[28 FR 7896, Aug. 2, 1963. Redesignated at 31 FR 81, Jan. 5, 1966 and amended at 48 FR 57473, Dec. 30, 1983; 57 FR 30899, July 13, 1992; 59 FR 67134, Dec. 29, 1994]

§ 122.3 Application for permits.

The Secretary may issue, at his discretion, a permit as specified in § 122.2 when proper safeguards are set up as provided in § 122.2 to protect the public. Application for such a permit shall be made in advance of shipment, and each permit shall specify the name and address of the consignee, the true name and character of each of the organisms

or vectors involved, and the use to which each will be put.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0579-0015)

[23 FR 10065, Dec. 23, 1958. Redesignated at 31 FR 81, Jan. 5, 1966 and amended at 48 FR 57473, Dec. 30, 1983; 59 FR 67134, Dec. 29, 1994]

§ 122.4 Suspension or revocation of permits.

(a) Any permit for the importation or transportation of organisms or vectors issued under this part may be formally suspended or revoked after opportunity for hearing has been accorded the permittee, as provided in part 123 of this subchapter, if the Secretary finds that the permittee has failed to observe the safeguards and instructions prescribed by the Administrator with respect to the particular importation or transportation or that such importation or transportation for any other reason may result in the introduction or dissemination from a foreign country into the United States, or from one State, Territory or the District of Columbia to another, of the contagion of any contagious, infectious or communicable disease of animals (including poultry).

(b) In cases of wilfulness or where the public health, interest or safety so requires, however, the Secretary may without hearing informally suspend such a permit upon the grounds set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, pending determination of formal proceedings under part 123 of this subchapter for suspension or revocation of the permit.

[23 FR 10065, Dec. 23, 1958. Redesignated at 31 FR 81, Jan. 5, 1966, and amended at 57 FR 30899, July 13, 1992]

PART 123—RULES OF PRACTICE GOVERNING PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE VIRUS-SERUM-TOXIN ACT

AUTHORITY: 21 U.S.C. 111 and 151-159; 7 CFR 2.22, 2.80, and 371.4.

§ 123.1 Scope and applicability of rules of practice.

The Uniform Rules of Practice for the Department of Agriculture promulgated in subpart H of part 1, subtitle A,